



### SRC CALENDAR

#### Monday, Feb. 6

- 10 a.m. Senate session and caucus

#### Tuesday, Feb. 7

- 9 a.m. Senate session and caucus

#### Wednesday, Feb. 8 - Friday, Feb. 10

- 9 a.m. Senate session and caucus  
(possible evening sessions)

#### Saturday, Feb. 11

- 10 a.m. Senate session and caucus  
(possible evening session)

### RAINY DAY FUND

**What they are saying about Sen. Joe Zarelli's** proposed "rainy day fund" constitutional amendment: "This is what I call a good government bill," said Richard Startz, a University of Washington economics professor. "This can go a long way toward keeping us out of trouble." (*Columbian*, 2-2-06)

"The bills deserves bipartisan support and should be passed, but it faces a difficult process. It would require a constitutional amendment, which requires approval by two-thirds of each legislative body, then voter approval. But the measure is strong enough to take on and meet that burden." (*Columbian editorial*, 1-15-06)

### WHAT'S ON TVW?

**Catch Sen. Dave Schmidt** talking about education on TVW's "Inside Olympia" Saturday night at 10 or Sunday at 10 a.m. or 7 p.m. (OK, maybe not the last one – that'll be around 4<sup>th</sup> quarter in the Super Bowl!)

And catch **Sen. Mark Schoesler** next Thursday at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. discussing energy issues.

Finally, **Sen. Linda Evans Parlette** will be on "Olympia On Call" next Friday night at 9 p.m.

### SRC IN THE NEWS

As reported in the *Yakima Herald-Republic* Friday, 56-year-old Cathy Munson's last day as a senior horticultural inspector in the Department of Agriculture is Saturday. She was fired for refusing to join the union or to pay a "representation fee" the union negotiated with former Gov. Locke.

Cathy is one a nearly 20 people who have been fired and is a hero to some for taking a principled stand.

"She's right on," **Sen. Mike Hewitt** told the paper.

Last year, Sen. Hewitt introduced SB 5711 to prohibit labor organizations from using union dues for political purposes. **Sen. Jim Honeyford** has sponsored legislation to prohibit unions from mandating dues, which would have saved Cathy's job. On the other end of the spectrum, SB 6644 would further harm employees by removing their ability to sign a waiver authorizing that union dues come out of their checks. Instead, the money would be removed *automatically* – with no authorization by the employee.

**On passage of the "gay rights" bill, but failure to consider a marriage constitutional amendment:** "The timing of this bill was no accident. If the Defense of Marriage Act decision had come down first, the public outcry might have stopped it. Now that it's passed, it can be used - just as the ACLU did in Maryland - to overturn the state's DOMA law. Gov. Gregoire has tried to de-link this bill and gay marriage, but when one is used as support for the other, they are absolutely intertwined." - **Sen. Brad Benson**, R-Spokane. (*Seattle P-I*, 1-31-06)

"That just showed that there's no doubt that this law was simply intended to provide assistance to those who are trying to overturn our state's Defense of Marriage Act," **Sen. Luke Esser** told the AP. "There are some who want to use this as a wink to the Supreme Court to take the next step." (*The Chronicle*, 1-28-06)

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